



OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE COORDINATOR  
FOR DRUG ENFORCEMENT POLICY AND SUPPORT

1510 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON DC 20301-1510

JUN 21



MEMORANDUM FOR UNDER SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (ATTN: N-313)  
ARMY DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF FOR PERSONNEL  
(ATTN: DAPE-HR-PR)  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR HEALTH  
AFFAIRS (CLINICAL SERVICES)  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE FOR  
FORCE MANAGEMENT AND PERSONNEL  
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE MANPOWER DATA CENTER


SUBJECT: Analytical Assessment of Department of Defense Military Drug Testing

In order to ensure responsive and cost effective programs, it is our practice to routinely conduct objective reviews of all counterdrug programs, including drug testing programs. In this context, as indicated in a prior memorandum, we are assessing the drug testing programs.

As you are aware, our drug testing of active duty military personnel has paid significant dividends for the Department and the Services. Our drug abuse rates are considerably lower than those of the general population--in part because of our aggressive stance on testing and its deterrence value. Despite this success, it is good management for us to continuously appraise the program's current effectiveness as a deterrent and as a means for identifying drug abuse. Ideally, we would like to further optimize this effective, but labor intensive and expensive program. To this end, a comprehensive, independent and objective analytical assessment of the Department's military drug testing program is underway, and a new, but knowledgeable, assessment team has been designated.

Dr. Rex Rivolo and Mr. John Kreis, Operational Evaluation Division, Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA), will now be conducting the assessment. Attached is the Tasking Statement as previously forwarded. The basic objective of this effort remains the same--to provide a more analytical base for our joint decisions on the future DoD drug testing policy and practices. Moreover, this will be the first time that a comprehensive review of this scope has been attempted. Therefore, I request that the organizations responsible for managing and executing your Service's Demand Reduction Programs assist IDA in this assessment, taking advantage of this opportunity to develop a better understanding of the analytical tenets of our drug testing effort.

My point of contact for this initiative is Captain John Jemionek, MSC, USN, who may be contacted at (703) 693-1917. Your continued support of the DoD Demand Reduction Program is appreciated.

  
Brian E. Sheridan  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for  
Drug Enforcement Policy and Support

Attachment:  
As stated



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## **Task Statement: Review of the DoD Military Drug Testing Program**

**Objective:** Conduct a comprehensive objective, statistical assessment of the Department of Defense (DoD) military drug testing program.

- Review the procedures, testing results, and consequences of the programs currently in place in each Service (Army, Navy/Marine Corps, and Air Force).
- Attempt to correlate the military drug testing program to measure reductions in military use of illegal drugs over the past 5 years (i.e., what impact has testing had as a deterrent).
- Compare military drug use to that of the comparable U.S. civilian population base at-large and explore reasons for differences in total populations, and in age and gender subgroups. Consider, all illegal drugs as a composite and also individual drugs (cocaine, THC, LSD, PCP heroin, amphetamines).
- Develop an analytical correlation between positive drug test results and actual drug use prevalence in each Service. Correlate the results to the results of the Worldwide Surveys of Substance Abuse and Health Behaviors Among Military Personnel.
- Provide an overall assessment of the effectiveness of each Service's program, and the DoD program as a whole.
- Provide analytically supported recommendations regarding:
  - Optimal testing rate and impact of different test rates
  - Existing and desirable random testing methods
  - High risk age/gender groups and consequences
  - Impact of age-focused testing
  - Impact of education level on drug use rates
  - Ways to enhance the effectiveness of the overall drug testing program, and each Service program - ways to enhance deterrence and reduce drug use

**Distribution of Results Analyses:** Initially, and possibly permanently, the results of the comprehensive analysis of the military drug testing program will be considered internal DoD predecisional information. The raw data, unless otherwise already published for public release, as well as the results of the analyses will not be releasable for public dissemination.